length of the pipeline and the approximate cost of the pipeline; and

(c) what happened to the proposal of opening a refinery of petroleum and it products at Paradip Port in Orissa which will be a port based one and the cost will much more less than any other place in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have decided to set up a 6 MTPA refinery at Karnal in the joint sector, with the Indian Oil Corporation as the public sector promoter.

(b) Crude oil required for this refinery will be supplied through a 315 Km branch line from Chaksu, on the existing Salaya-Mathura pipeline. This branch line is estimated to cost approximately Rs. 150 crores.

(c) There was no proposal to set up an oil refinery at Paradip Port. The refinery at Karnal is proposed mainly to meet the demand of petroleum products in the North-Western region of the country.

Schemes for setting up gas-based power plants

92. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up any schemes for exploiting natural gas for the purpose of setting up gas based power plants;

(b) if so, what are the details of the schemes and the quantity of energy likely to be made available as a result of the above schemes; and

(c) whether such schemes have also been drawn for the States of Madya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Commitments have been made for supply of gas for the new Central Power Projects at Kathalguri in Assam (280 MW), Anta in Rajasthan (430 MW) and Auraiya in Uttar Pradesh (600 MW). The Central Power Project at Kawas in Gujarat (600 MW) would receive gas on fall back basis. Gas has also been committed for 15 MW new capacity in Tripura. There is no scheme, presently under consideration, to set up a gas-based power station in Madhya Pradesh.

Liberalisation of import of technology and investment from NRIs for industrial capabilities

93. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have announced measures for liberalisation of import of technology and investment from Non-resident Indians to develop India's Industrial capabilities;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether any foreign companies have shown interst after the announcement by Government of the above measures and if so, what are the complete details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) Various suggestions regarding fiscal matters and procedures connected with NRI investment are considered by a Consultative Committee on NRI matters, constituted by the Ministry of Finance. Suitable changes in the Policy/procedures for NRI investment are incorporated wherever necessary.

For import of technology, Government have delegated more powers to the Adiminstrative Ministries to consider and accord approvals in respect of foreign collaboration proposals submitted by the entrepreneurs. Government have also decided to allow higher rate of royalty and foreign equity in Indian companies where the technology is sophisticated and closely guarded. These measures also apply to the NRI cases.

The initiative for selection of technology and tie-up with a foreign collaborator is left to the entrepreneurs. It is, therefore, not possible to assess the direct response fo the foreign companies in these cases.

Privatisation of public enterprises

94. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the International Chamber of Commerce Congress held in New Delhi recently have favoured privatisation of public enterprises as a means of economic expansion in our country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such a move will generate more employment potential; and

(c) if so, what are the broad deliberations of the ICCC and the reaction of the Government of India thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) to (c) One of the conclusions made at the 29th Congress of International Chamber of Commerce held at New Delhi, in February, 1987 was that "the world-wide trend of privatising State owned companies and contracting out State or Municipal services should be encouraged since it can add to the competitive efficiency of national economies, improve the long term finances of Government and provide new business opportunities for the private sector".

The roles assigned to private and public sectors in the industrial development of the country are laid down in the Industrial Policy Resolution, 1956 which continues to provide the basic frame-work of the Government's industrial policy.

Shortage of LPG Cylinders

95. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the supply of filled LPG cylinders is delayed by dealers by 2-3 days;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any shortage of these cylniders and in case there is no shortage of LPG cylinders, what are the reasons for which M/s. Prem Nath Motors, an Indian Oil Corporation LPG dealer is not able to supply LPG cylinders, the same day to the consumers; and

(d) by when the situation is likely to be improved?